

LEIF ERIKSSON - August 21, 2006

1

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ROBERT REVAK

and

MARGARET REVAK

vs.

INTERFOREST TERMINAL UMEÅ AB

and

WAGENBORG SHIPPING B.V.

CIVIL ACTION

NO. 03-4822

## INTERPRETED ORAL DEPOSITION OF LEIF

ERIKSSON, produced as a witness at the instance of  
the Plaintiffs, taken in the above-styled cause on  
the 21st day of August, 2006, from 1:25 p.m. to 4:08  
p.m., before Candice F. Flowers, a Certified  
Shorthand Reporter, at the offices of Advokatfirman  
Vinge AB, Smalandsgatan 20, in the City of  
Stockholm, Country of Sweden, pursuant to the  
agreements as stated on the record and/or the  
Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

**ORIGINAL**

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LEIF ERIKSSON - August 21, 2006

51

1 percent, but it is very rare that we would do that  
2 ourselves because we want to work in a safe  
3 environment as well.

4 Q When did you first learn about this  
5 accident, the accident involved in this case?

6 A Maybe half a year after the time of the  
7 accident.

8 Q Who told you?

9 A It was Per Fahrman, the operations manager  
10 at the time.

11 Q I'm showing you photographs 24C, 24B, 24A,  
12 and 27A. Would you agree that those are all  
13 pictures of a torn polyester sling?

14 A Yes, I agree with that.

15 Q Have you ever seen a polyester sling torn  
16 in that fashion?

17 A I do not think so.

18 Q Have you looked at these photographs  
19 before today?

20 A No, the first time today.

21 Q Looking at these photographs, do you have  
22 any idea, based on your 20 to 25 years' experience  
23 as a longshoreman working with cargo slings, what  
24 could have caused a tear like this?

25 MR. DONOVAN: Objection to the form.

LEIF ERIKSSON - August 21, 2006

53

1 tearing from this part, from this side.

2 MR. GRUBER: Indicating on photograph  
3 24B -- what would you say -- on the top portion  
4 shown in the photograph and the same thing on 24C.

5 Q (By Mr. Gruber) Anything else?

6 A I think it could be a mechanical injury  
7 during the hoist itself. Somewhere it has touched.

8 Q You mean like touched the bulkhead or  
9 touched the side of the hatch. Is that what you are  
10 talking about?

11 A That is what I mean.

12 Q Anything else?

13 A The colors correspond a lot better with  
14 reality on these ones than on these, if it is the  
15 same sling.

16 Q You mean the colors on the P24 photographs  
17 look more like the color you are used to seeing than  
18 the colors on the P27 photographs.

19 A Yes.

20 Q In your 25 years of experience, have you  
21 ever seen a synthetic sling, such as the one that we  
22 see in the photographs, break apart as a result of  
23 touching a bulkhead or the edge of a hatch?

24 A Yes, I have seen that.

25 Q I thought you told me that the only times

LEIF ERIKSSON - August 21, 2006

54

1 you have seen a sling break apart was when it was  
2 just a little way off the ground.

3 A Yes, that it has broken by itself.

4 Q So you have seen situations where slings  
5 have come apart as a result of touching a bulkhead  
6 or the side of a hatch?

7 MR. DONOVAN: Objection to the form.

8 A I have.

9 Q And those were occasions where the cargo  
10 was being handled at Interforest Terminal?

11 A In our harbor, but with hired crane  
12 operators from Umeå.

13 Q You mean the crane operator wasn't a  
14 direct employee of Interforest?

15 A They are not employed by Interforest, no.

16 MR. GRUBER: That's all I have.

17 Thank you.

18 EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. POWERS:

20 Q Herr Eriksson, my name is Edward Powers.  
21 I represent Wagenborg Shipping, who is a  
22 co-defendant in this action. I have a couple of  
23 questions for you, very briefly.

24 I'm going to hand you what's been marked  
25 as Exhibit P17. Have you ever seen that document